

The Blacke Dogge of Newgate :
both pithie and profitable
for all Readers.

Vide, Lege, Caus.

Time shall trie the trueth.







To the honorable Sir John Popham
Knight, Lord chiefe Iustice of
Englande : all encrease of
honor and happines.



Two reasons, my Honorable good Lord, mee especially moued, to dedi-
cate this Booke to your Honor. The first; for, I helde it my dutie,
to certifie you of the notable abuses
dayly committed by a great number
of very bad fellowes, who vnder the
couller of Office and seruice, doe
mighty abuse both Iustice and Iustices: which in this Booke
is largely discouered. The next; for, your Honor being there-
of certified, such bad fellowes shalbe the soner lookt into, and
their outragies qualifid: so that the soner by you, the like
mischieues may be preuented. What I haue done, is in loue
and Zeale: Both which, I doubt not, but they will excuse my
boldnesse: And so the worke be acceptable in your good opi-
nion, I will not regarde the mallice of the threatening Cunny-
catcher; who hath sworne, if I publish this Booke, they will do
me what mischiefe they can. But how little I regarde their
windie wordes, they may well perceiue by my proceedings: if
this worke had beeene worth a Talent, it should haue beeene your
honors: and being a poore mans mite, I desire it may be ac-

A 3 ceptable:

The Epistle.

ceperable: and if heereafter I shall be better able, your honor
shall not faile, but finde me ready to do your honor seruice, even
to the uttermost of my power. Thus assuring my selfe safe
shielded with your fauour, to whome I present this Booke, desi-
ring you to take the full view of this Black Dogge of New-
gate, I humbly, and in all dutie, cease to be tedious: praying
to the Almighty, to lengthen long your dayes, with encrease
of all vertue and honor, and after this lyfe, to send you to euer-
lasting happinesse, and ioyes endlesse. Amen.

To do your Honour ser-
uice whilst he liueth,

L V K E H V T T O N.



To the Reader.

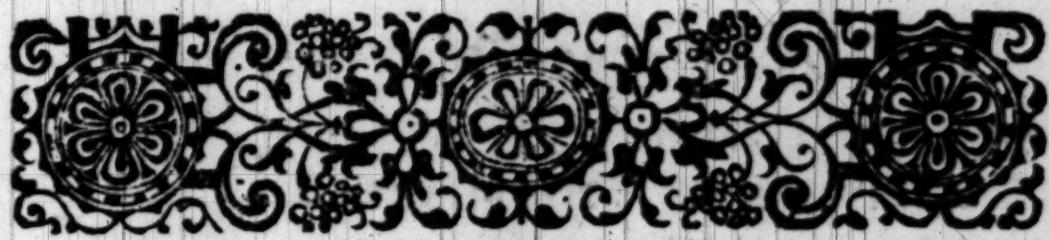


Entle Readers, for my Repentance was so welcome, and so much the better because it was mine: in some parte to satisfie your courtesies, I thought it my part to present you with thankes, and more, with my second labour: which albeit, it be both my especiall cost and trauell, yet it is yours: and so I may say, for you are willing to paye the prize of the Blacke Dogge of Newgate. Meruaile not Gentlemen, that you pay so deare for a Dogge, indeed a Curre: I wish you all well, and though three halfe-pence be a Dogs price, yet if you according to my Poefie, accept my Penne and Paper, it will counteruail the charge of six pence. You haue knowne me better if you euer knew me, and neuer worse if you now know me: But for I haue read some bookes of Philosophie, I thought it best to be my selfe, not as I was, for I hope you are otherwise perswaded, but as I am, and so to liue or die. But for it is no better then the Blacke Dogge of Newgate: I desire you not to thinke your time ill bellowed in the reading, nor the pris great which you gaue for it. When you haue perused it, if you like it not, say the Dogge came from Newgate, hang him vp, and rend the Paper in peeces, and I will be your debter a worke of better acceptance, yet let me giue you to vnderstand by the way, that this Dogge, and many Dogs of his kinde, haue I knowne a great while, and if I had not had ~~great~~ occasion, I would neuer haue bestowed so much time ~~on~~: Nav more, that you shall not thinke

To the Reader.

this Dogge nor any of his kinde to be as they haue beeне, the murtherers and vtter vndocing at the least of an infinite number, to be shadowed by the name of Seruant at Newgate, at this time I thought good faithfully to giue you to vnderstand, that he who was euer able to keepe a good Dogge, and now to make choyse of his seruants in Newgate, did in my sight, thrust this Dogge by the head and shoulders out of Newgate, makiug choyse of men instead of Dogges: and more I dare say, neuer shall a Curre in shape of man commit the like abuses, during his time in Newgate. No more for the Dogge of Newgate, but for this Dogge of mine, with me still well, I will never doe you ill; so to your content as I wish, I leaue you and me to my better content when God will.

For ever fare you well,
Luke Hutton.



The blacke Dogge of Newgate: *both piththy, pleasant, and profitable, for all readers.*



Even as blacke Tytan with his duskie robe,
had Tellus clouded with his curtayns nyght,
Fayre Phiebus peering vnderneath eartes globe
with winged steedes hence takes his course a
Tytan he leaues to beare imperial sway, (right:
commaunding nyght, as Phiebus did the day.

The fierie Chariot posteth vnder ground.

With Tytans mantle all the earth is spred,
And wreches of Icar about his temples bound:
Earthes Tell cole blacke, swete Morpheus calls to bed.
No time to walke, to sport, to game, to see,
I did obey, that must commaunded bee.

Layed in my bed, I grau for to recount,
A thousand thinges, which had been in my time:
My birth, my youtch, my woes, which all surmount,
My life, my losse, my libertie my crime:
Then where I was, vnto my minde recalling,
Mee thought Earth gapt, and I to Hell was falling.

Amidst these feares that all my senses cumber,
Care clost mine eyes, and sorrow wroung my hart:
Opprest with greefe, mine eye-lids grau to slumber,
But borne to woes, must of moare woes haue part:
A thousand furies to my hart appearing,
Threes tormentis my soule with fearing.

The blacke Dogge of Newgate.

Thus lay I long, beholding Hell and Devils,
Agast with mazes, almost dead in feares,
Not knowing how to rid me from the euils:
They shew in action, and in looks appeares,
One anticke monster, hidious, soule and grim,
Mee most appayld, and most I looke at hym.

Thought I at last, I will crie out for ayde,
Bowning to crie neare dead, afright with feare,
I heard a voyce, which like an Angel, sayd:
Hutton be bolde, for thou shalt see and heare
Men Devils, Devils men, one bothe, bothe all deluding:
Worlds euils, wracke then, sheeps cloch, Wolves pray con-
(cluding.

Hearing a voyce, my hart was much ruined,
Noting the wordes, I did some courage take:
But suddaine ioyes hath suddaine woes attiued,
A suddaine noyse this hellish crew did make,
Threatning by shewes as though they woul'd deuouer
my life and soule, subdeuod by terrors power.

Thought chekke my minde, feares senses all amazing,
Hell broken loose, eyes visions furies affrighting,
Subdeud earths powers, vprears harts insight a gazing,
Terror of minde with hope, cries feares faint arighting:
Helpe mee overquelled: waking with dread, I espied
Great gracious Myncrua, who thus to my outcrie replied,

FEAR not at all, nor faynt thou with beholding:
But light thy Lampe, and take thy Pen in hand.
Write what thou sees, thy visions all vnfolding,
I will direct, and let thee understande,
What all these helhoundes shadow by appearing.
View thou their wort, and then wite of their fearing.

The blacke Dogge of Newgate.

Subdeud by woxhs, which did all woxdes excede,
Rauishe with ioyes, such featurc to behold,
Abiecting feare, my gluttred eyes I fecde,
Upon hit brig'nes which all harmcs contold:
Glimise of hit brig'nes senses all indearing,
Legions of Deuils could no moxe fright wich fearing.

I preasd my selfe to take the hardest steele,
And from the flint I bett soorth sparkes of fyre:
Kindling the lint, my ready match I feele,
Weelding my Lampe the light of my desyer:
Soone spyyed Mynerua, with Lawxel cround and Vayes,
Pyxxor devine feature of woxthles prayse.

Before her feete submissiuely I fell,
Pardon I craud, fearing I was too bold:
Rise vp quoth shee, and view these hags of hell,
For diuers secrets must thy pen vnfold.
Make true record, what shalbe shewd to thce,
For these are they, which Worlde's deceauers bce.

Ile clense thine eyes, least vapours do offend,
Ile cleare thy Wits, and giue a pleasing muse:
The deafest eare shall to thy talke attend,
The worke so woxhy, thou may not refuse:
Newgates blacke Dogge wich pen and inke depayne,
Curses, of this kinde shall thereby haue restraynt.

Not for my sake do thou what I require,
But for his sake: and with that worde mice shooes
A fayre olde Man, whose teares forecolde desir,
And in a mantle mourner like he goes.
His veynes like Azure, his heare as white as Wooll,
Tresses before, behinde a bare smoch skull.

The blacke Dogge of Newgate.

And this is Time, Minerva thus replyed,
Which mournes to see these helthoudes Tymes abusing,
How thousandes in their tauching lawes haue dyed:
Slaughtering Lambes, yet to the wylde excusing,
Offence with culter, shadowing myghtie euils,
By name of seruice, and yet incarnat Deuils.

No more quoth shee, but take thee to thy Pen.
Resolute the Wyse, that they haue been deceaued:
Many Blacke Dogs haue walke in shapess of men,
And with deceites hath Common wealth agreed:
His forme and lynaments to the wylde disclose,
That this Blacke Dogge be knownen where he goes.

My Muse gan blush, dreading to undertake
so great a taske: but Time againe replyde.
Feare not at all, Time wot the motion make,
Unmask this Beast, let hem no longer hide
Him selfe in shrowdes, who makes of sinne a scott,
Woldes greatest admire, when as his vizards off.

Time then sayd I, fayre time I will not vse
Longer delay, but sacrifice thy will:
So Time will answere for my harmeles muse,
Who wanech wotch to nigh I'ennishus hill.
Be briefe, quoth Time: with that Iooke my Pen,
Obeyng Time, without offence to men.

Then did I fixe mine eye vpon this Beast,
Who did appeare first in the shap of Man,
Honly attyde, of wonderis not the least:
A Broome-mans song to sing this Dogge began,
From streete to streete trubg eth along this Grome,
As if he wold serue all the woldc with Broome.

The blacke Dogge of Newgate.

But in a trice he did transforme his shape,
Which stroke a trebble horrore to my hart.
A Cerberus, nay worse, hee thrise as wide did gape,
His heares all Snakes curling, they will not part.
Cole blacke his hew, like Torchies glow his eyes,
His brest doth poysone, smoake from his nostrels fyres.

His countenance gasty, fearefull, grim, and payle,
His somie mouth still gaucheth for his pray :
With Tygers teech he spares none to assayle,
His lyppes Hell graces, orepaynted with decay.
His congue the clapper, sounding woefull knell,
Towling poore men to ring a peale in hell.

Like Sepulcher his thoate is hollow made,
Devouring all whom danger makes a pray.
Bybrie his hand, spoyle of the pope, his trade,
His fyngers Talentes, ceasing to betray.
And with his armes he fouldech men in woes,
Destruction still the path where ere he goes.

Mee thought his brest was all of burning Brasse,
Though which there grew a hart of hardest Steele:
His belly hudge, lyke scalding furnace was,
His thyghes both lyke unto a fierie wheele,
His legges were long, one foote lyke to a Hind,
The other foote a houndes of bloody kind.

And in this shape I saw this monster walke,
About the streetes, most fearefull to beholde:
But more to tell, since I began to talke,
Vere is the tale, whiche Time would sayne haue tolde,
Upon a suddaine rushit this Curr on mee,
As though my lyf this euening pray should bee.

The blacke Dogge of Newgate.

Within his clutches did he ceaze me fast,
And bare me straight unto blacke Plutoes cell:
When there I came, he me in Ly'rn bo ast,
A Stigton lake, the dungion of deepe hell:
But first my legs he lockt in Iron boyle,
As if poore I had borne some in iron Coulte.

And then he gan with basell termes to braidie,
And then he threatas as though he wold me kill:
And then he daunces for he me betrayd,
And then speakes fayre, as though he ment no ill:
Then like Madusa doth he shake his locks,
And then he threatens me with Iron stocks.

At last he left me in that flesome den,
Where was no day for there was ever night:
Woes me thought I, the abject of all men,
Cloued in care, quicke banished from light:
Robb of the Skie, the Scarres, the day, the Sunne,
This Dog, this Diuell, hath all my joyes vndun.

Surpised with anguish sorow griefe and woe,
Me thought I heard a noise of Iron cheanes:
Which din did torment and affright me so,
That all my sences studied what it meaneas:
But by and by, whiche did me comfort more,
There came a man whiche opened Lymbos boore.

All leane he was, and feeble too God knowes,
Upon his arme he bare a bunch of keyes:
With Candle light about the cell he goes,
Who roughly sayd, sir lyte you at your easse:
Swearing an oath that I did lie too soft,
Who lay on ground, and thus he at me scott.

The blacke Dogge of Newgate.

To see a man of feature, forme and shape,
It did me good, and partly feares exiled :
But when I heard him gibe me like an Ape,
Then did I thinke that I was thise beguiled.
Yet woulde I venture to this man to speake,
Iats discourses thus I gan to breake.

Aye me poore wretch, that knowes not where I am,
Nor for what cause I am broughte to this place :
Bound for the slaughter, lyng like the Lambe,
The butchers meanes to kill within a space.
My greeues are more then can my tonge expresse,
Aye me, woes me, that can finde no redresse.

Yet if thou be as thou doest seeme a man,
And so thou art, if I do not mistake :
Do not encrease if so release thou can,
The cruell tortures which me wofull make,
And tell me first who thou thy selfe mayst be,
That art a man, and yet doest gibe at me.

Seeing the feares which dyd my heart possesse,
Viewing the teares that trickled from mine eyes :
He answered thus, a man I must confesse,
I am my selfe that heare condemned lyes,
And by the law adiudged I am to dye,
But now the keeper of these keyes am I.

This house is Newgate, gently he replyed,
And this place Lymbo wherein now thou art :
Untill thou pay a fine, heare must thou bide,
With all these boules which do agreeue thy heart,
No other place may there provided be,
Till thou content the keeper with a fee.

The blacke Dogge of Newgate.

With that hee turnd as though he would away.
Sweete, bide a whyle, I did him so entreate,
Quoth hee, My frend, I can not longer stay,
Yet what you want, yf you will drinke or eate,
Dy haue a fyre, or Candle by you burne,
Say what you neede, and I will serue your turns.

Quoth I, deare frend then helpe mee to a fyre,
Let me haue Candle for to giue mee lyght:
Nor meate nor drinke do I wylsh or desier,
But onely graune mee gracious in thy sight.
And say, What monster was it plast mee heere?
Who hath mee almost lyuelen made with feare.

May peace quoth hee, for there begins a tale.
Rest now content, and Time will tell thee more,
To striue in fetters it will small anayle:
Seeke first to easc thy legges which will grow sore,
When boultz are off, we will chace handes.
So he departed, leauing mee a Candle.

Away he went, and leaues me to my moes.
And being gon, I could not chuse but thinke
That he was kind, though first unknd in shewes,
Who offered mee both fyre, bread, and drinke.
Leauing a Candle by me for to burne,
It easd my greefe, and made mee lesse to mourne.

Joying to see, who whilame had no syght,
I reache the Candle, which by burnyng standes,
but I vnworthy comfort of the lyght,
A Rat doth rob the Candle from my handes,
And then a hundred Rats all sallie foorth,
As yf they would conuoye their pryze of moch.

The blacke Dogge of Newgate.

In vaine I triue to reobtayne whats lost,
My woes are now, as woes at first began :
With change of greeves my perplext soule is cost,
To see the end I did bethinke me than,
How time had promisid secrets to disclose,
So I exspect the worst of hellish foes.

Whilst thus I lay in Irons vnder ground,
I heard a man that begged for releefe:
And in a chaine of Iron was he bound,
Whose clattering noyse fulle my heart with griefe,
Begging one penny to buie a hundred bread,
Hungerd and steruid, for want of food ny dead.

Woes me thought I, for thce so bound in chaines,
Woes me for them, thou beggs for to sustaine:
Woes me for all, whose want all woes conteynes,
Woes me, for me, that in ycur woes complaine.
Woes me, woes you, and woe is to vs all,
Woe to that Dogge, made me to woe a thall.

Whilst thus I languish, I on suddaine heare,
An vnoch noyse which did approche my den:
Listening, vnto the doore, I laide mine eare,
And then I knew the voyces were of men.
Still in neerenesse drew they more and more,
At last I heard them opening Lymboes doore.

In first there came, the man that gaus me light,
And next the Dogge, who broughte me to that place :
Another, with a Club appaerd in sight,
Three weaponlesse, as though they monde my case.
Fainting for feare, I knew not what to say,
Expecting then performance of decay.

The blacke Dogge of Newgate

But now this Dog is in another shafe,
In eucry point proportiond as a man :
My heart did throb, noe knowing how to scape,
but to intreat this Curre, I thus began.
Fayre friend, quoth I, if so thy will may be,
To ease my griefe Ile giue thee any fee,

With that he grynd, and thus he made reply,
Thou art a villaine, worthy of this place :
Thy faulc is such, that thou shal surely dpe,
I will noe pitcy thee in any case.
Such as thou art, too many euery where,
But I will seeke in time to haue thyn heare,

When he namde Tyne, when I on Tyne did thinke,
But mox he sayes, if thou haue any capne:
To pay for ease, I will a little winke,
And boules releasmen, with discharge Ile loyne.
Of this close prison to some other warden,
Paying thy fine, or else all ease is batd.

Like as the childe dooth kisse the rod for feare,
Nor yet dare whimper, though it haue beene bet:
So with smooche looke s, this Dog appoache I neare,
Before the Diuell, a candle do I set.
Treating him faire, with fayrest words may be,
Bidding him aske, he shall haue golde of me.

Why then, quoth he, thy speeches please me well,
Partners (quoth he) strike of his Irons all:
Then vp we went, as one shoulde clime from hell,
Untill I came into a loachsome hall.
When there I came, they set me on a block,
With punche and hammer, my Irons off they knock.

The blacke Dogge of Newgate.

Mo meruaile though,whilst they my legs binde,
Mine eyes bid surfeit,drunke with woes beholding:
Boults,shackles,colors, and Iron shears I spide,
Thumblaks,wastbands,tortors greefe vnolding.
But whilst the ease of legs my sorrowes calmes,
Rooke quoth a wretch,for me with wydowes almes.

Take of these curtals bid another crie,
And on his knees he fell before this Cur:
Who to his sorwing made a Dogs replie,
Downe to thy warde, and doe not make this cur.
What now I know,if I had knowne before,
In stead of these light chaines thou shouldest had more.

With that the poore man was thrust out of sight,
And I all fearing,feard with feare of feares:
My Irons off I went,as go I might,
Unto this Dog,in whom all diuels appeares.
With goulden Angell,I this Cur presented,
Saith he,one more,else am noe I contented.

Wonder it was,to see a feend of hell,
To thirst for angels of the fayrest hue:
But diuels are diuels, and they would all overcomme,
Mans life and soule, this Dog seekes to subdue.
His mouth to stoppe,angels I gaue him two,
Peelding perforce,as I perforce must doo.

And then he left me in the partners hall,
The gracie doth open, and this Dog out goes:
Thousand sorrowes holds my heart in chall,
But yet there I am noe by my selfe in woes.
Heron overplunged with deepe hearts greefe cryes,
I live a life,chrise worse then he that dyes,

The blacke Dogge of Newgate.

An other sorpe soule, without a ragge,
Hurckling for calde, in whome all maner appears:
At last gan speake, as if he ment to spagge,
And thus he sayes: Heare haue I beene nine yeares.
Tell you of woes, when you my wares haue seene,
And yet haue many men more woefull beene.

With that I rose, and to this poore man wene,
In hope to learne some nouis by his talke:
Approching him, amiss his discontent,
He asked me, if so I pleased to walke:
And if you will, then follow vp these staires,
To walke, and talke, deceueth time of cares.

I followed him, as he that in a wood,
Hath lost himselfe, and knowes no way he takes:
And in distresse I thoughte conferring good,
New woes with olde, iust mixture console makes.
And though the place do naught but discord sound,
My soule for his our discords concord sound.

At first he gently tooke me by the hand,
And bids we welcome, as I were his guest:
You are a prisoner, I do understand,
And herter welcome are both bad and best.
Men of all sorte come for offendynge herter,
And being heare, heare bide they altogether.

And then he did begin thus to discourse,
Cease to lament with baine dispayring teares:
Thy selfe dissolud to droopes, gaines no remorse,
Heares none regards, though all thy mournings hears.
If vnder earth, the Dineles can produue a bell,
Theirs is not like to this, where wretches dwell.

The blacke Dogge of Newgate.

See in yon Hall are divers sorts of men, (bands,
Some wepe, some wistle, some mourne, some wryng their
Some curse, some swere, and some blaspheming them,
My heart did faint, my head hayre wryghte stands.
O Lord thought I, this house will rend in sunder,
Or else there can be no hell, this hell vnder.

Thus wondring I, on suddaine did espie,
One all in blacke came stamping vp the stappes:
Whose yon I aske, and thus he made reply,
Yon is the man doth mitigate our cares.
He preacheth Christ, and doth Gods word deliver,
To all distrest, to comfort men for euer.

Then drew I neare to see what might betide,
Or what the sequell was of that I saw:
Expecting good would folloe such a guide,
As preached Christ, and caught a God to know,
A hundred clustered, vying the pulpit neare,
As if they longd the Gospell so to heare.

Whats this, quoth I, that now I do behold,
The hage of hell, and Satans impious lims,
Some deeper secret doth this sight vnofolde,
Then I can gesse, this sight my sences dim.
Straight, of my friend I asked by and by,
What it myght be, who made me this reply.

Yon men which thou beholdest so pale and wan,
Who whiles lookes vp, whiles looking downe beneath,
Are all condemnd, and they must dye each man,
Judgment is giuen, that corde shall stop their breath.
For haynsus facts, as murther, theft, and treason,
Unworthy life, to dye law thoughte it reason.

The blacke Dogge of Newgate.

The Sermon ended, the men condempned to dye,
Taking their leaues of their acquainted friends:
With sorry lookes payling their steps they plye,
Dowone to a hall, where for them there attends.
A man of office, who to daunt liues hopes,
Doth corde their hands, and scarfe their necks with ropes.

Thus ropt and corded, they descend the stayres,
Newgates Black Dog, besturus to play his part:
And doth not cease so to augment their cares,
Willing the Cartman to set neare his Cart.
Whiche done, these men, with feare o' death o'repangd,
Bound to the Cart, are carried to be hangd.

This ruefull sight, yet end to their doomd sorowes,
Makes me agast, and forces me bethinke:
Woe vpon woe, and so from wofull borrowes,
A swame of greefe, and then I sounding sinke.
But by Tymes ayde, I did reuine againe,
Might I haue dyed, it had beene lesser paine.

For now againe the Dog a fresh assaults me,
As if my spoile were next to be inacted:
And like a subtille Cur in speeches halts he,
With thousand sleighty wyles, olde shiftes compacted.
Charging me oft with that I never did,
In his smoothst lookes, are cruel bitings hid.

I speake him faire, as if I had offended,
He treates me soule, who never did him ill:
He playes the gripe one Tytious intended,
To tyre his heart, yet never hath his fyll.
Euen so this Dog doth tyre and prey on me,
Till quite consumed, my golden angels be.

Then

The Blacke Dogge of Newgate.

Then wofull wante did make me oft complaine,
Hunger and colde do pinche me at the heart:
Then am I thrust out of my bed againe,
And from my chamber must I needes depart.
To lowest wardenes, to lye vpon the boordes,
Which naught but filche and noisome spuels affordes.

Didst forcie men, surprist with care and greefe,
I lye me downe on boordes as hard as chenell:
No bed, nor boulster, may afford releefe,
For worse then Dogs, lye we in that foule kennell.
What might I thinke, but sure assure me then,
That metamorphosed we were beasts not men.

Greefe vpon greefe, did still oppresse my minde,
Yet had I store comparters in my woe:
No easse, but anguish, my distrelles finde,
Here lyes a man, his last lynes breath dooth blow,
And ere the sorry man be fully dead,
The Rats do prep vpon his face and head.

Whilst thus I languish in my woes, appeares
Tyme in his mantle, looking fresh and blythe:
Yet whiles his eyes did shed some drops of teares,
Wherewith he seemd, as he would wet his scithe.
Quoth Tyme, by me shall sorowes be appeased,
And nows the tyme thou shalt of cares be eased.

I did present this Booke which I had wriuen,
Into Tymes hands, who cooke it and perused it:
Pea, but saych Tyme, thou must discouer yet,
Who this Dog is, who else will be excused.
For albe I so cleard thine eyes to see him,
So may not others, yet Tyme would haue all sene him.

The blacke Dogge of Newgate.

And for thy verses couertly disclose,
The secrets sense, and yet doth shadowe trueches
Explaine this Blacke Dogge, who he is, in prose,
For more apparant, then thy Poem sheweth.
Truth needs no couours, then this Dog by kinde,
Make knowne before, as he is knowne behynde.

By Sythe, quesch Tyme, is now prepared to dure,
There is no siche, but Tymes shall longer dure:
Newgates Blacke Dog, must Tyme to silence put,
He beake his teeth, and make his bicing sure.
The shapes of men, on Dogs of cruell kinde,
Tyme shall confound, that beare so bad a minde.

Hauue thou no doubt, but Tyme shall set thee free,
And yet hereafter learne thou to beware:
Of this Blacke Dog, and do his dangers flee,
Give others warning, least like fall their share.
Say to the world, when thou art freed from hell,
Newgates Blacke Dog thou saw, and knew too well.

And for thy Poem drawes to a conclusion,
Tymes pleasure is, that thou this Dog expelle:
In shape, in nature, man: yet mens confusion,
A madding Cur, who doth from kinde regresse.
A Mothers sonne, and most for to be wondred,
Of Mothers sonnes, this Dog hath spouled a hundred.

In lowly sort, complaine to highest powers,
Trueth will be heard, and trueth must not be hid:
With forclike wyles, this Dog poore soules deuouers,
This Dog of men, desyphir I thee bid.
And though ther be curs many of his kinde,
Say but the trueth, and yet leauie naught behynde.

The blacke Dogge of Newgate.

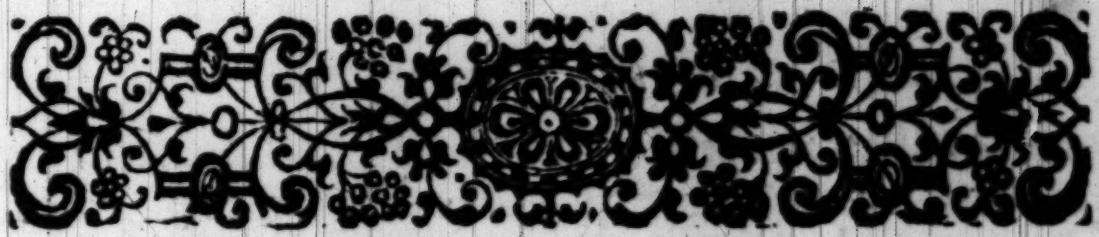
When Tyme had sayd, I from my feares awake,
Yet had I witt what premisses concaines:
Twas no illusion moude me this Poem make,
But greeues indured, and woes my heart sustaines.
Greefe, care, and woe, my silly heart do clog,
Fettered to shame by this cur Newgates Dog.

Now as I haue discribd him in some sort,
As he is fearefull unto all him see:
His diuellish practises now I will report,
And set them downe as wicked as they be.
Here ends my Poem, Newgates black Dog to name,
Now read the rest, and then commend or blame.

F I N I S.

D





A Dialogue betwixt the Author
and one Zawny, who was a Prisoner
in Newgate, and perfectly acquainted with
matters touching the discouerie of the su-
perlatiue degree of Cunnicatching: pi-
shy, pleasant, and profitable for all
the readers heereof.

Awny, I haue many times beeene in hand Auth with thee to giue me some noces vpon thy knowledge , as concerning the notable abuses committed by a sorte of dissolute fel- lowes , who are in very deed the worse members in a common-wealthe ; I meane infamous cunnicatching knaues, who con- tinually seeke the spoile of others to intitch themselues , and now is the time thy helpe will do me some pleasure : for at the request of a very friend, I was mooued to write something of worch , wherevpon I made chiose of the blacke Dog of Newgate to be a subiect to write vpon, wherein I could not choose, diuers strong reasons espccially moouing therewerto , but in that cycle shadow the knauerie, villanie, robberie , and Cunni- catching , committed daily by diuers , who in the name of ser- vice and office, were as it were attendants at Newgate. Againe I did choose to giue my booke that title, as well to satisfie some who yet thinkethere is some spirit about that prison in the like- nesse of a black Dog : of which fonde imagination to put them out of doubt , I thought good to giue them to understand, that indeed there is no such matter . The thrid reason was, for I be- ing in Newgate a prisoner, and ouerthowne by these kinde of

The blacke Dogge of Newgate.

bad people with their cunnycatching, in most vile and wicked manner, in so much that whilst I there languished in great extremite, I did both heare and see many outragious iniuries by them committed on diverse sortes of people: the prechisles considered, I deo intreate thee to let me haue thy helpe to set downe some of their villanies committed in thy knowledge, and I will not be slacke to present thys booke, being finished, into thir godly hands: who will assuredly giue them condigne punishment, as also prouide, that the like mischiefes shal never be any more put in practise by any notable villaines.

Indeede you say well, and I agree: but yet you know I am a poore man, and am a Prisoner. Againe, it is ill medling with edge tooles. As you comprechend them in the name of a Dog: so if they be angrie, they will bite, and play the deuill in their like-nesse. They haue parlous heads, store of moncy, and some good friends: all which I want. Neither will I name any: but if their knaueries were knownen, it would be thought the Gal-lowes as fit for these Cunnycatchers, as Newgate is for mee, who am rather kept in to bribe them, then to answer any offence I haue committed: yet seeing you haue begun well, I woulde wish you end no worse: and for my part, tell you one of their knaueries, and Ile tell another: so that ere we haue done, if we tell all, the Cunny-catcher will think we haue tolde too much. But by your lcaue a word, I wil name no man, for if they should be named, their friends would be angry: and more then that, I rather wish their amendment, then their publike infamie: of which motion if you like, begin when you will, and when you are weary rest you, and I will go on with it: for our matter being all one, no doubt our conclusion will be to the like effect.

Godly, wise, honorable, worshipful, & gentle Reader, know first there be an infinite number of this sect and company of cunny catchers, therfore it were an endless pece of worke to name them all: but for I know too many of them, and haue likewise taide for my acquaintance with them, it may be expected I shoulde name some of them, which for the inconuenience might thereby insue, I thought good to craue your nati^e that

The blacke Dogge of Newgate.

behalfe, assuring you, that they are easie enough to be knowne by their coullers: but what wicked parts they haue performed, I will not faile but make manifest. Therefore, first I desire you to imagine, that these fellowes, these Cunny catchers I would say, do promise to þ world great matters: as for example. They will undertake if a man be robd by the way, they will helpe the party offended to his money againe, or to the theeuers at the least. Likewise, if a Purse be cut, a House brokен, a peccce of Plate stolе, they will promise the like: mary, to further this good peccce of seruice, they must haue a Warrant procured from some Justice at the least, that by the sayd general Warrant, they may take by all suspected persons: which being obtained, then marke how notably therewith they play the knaues, how shamefullly they abuse the Justices who graunted the Warrant, & how no-toxiously they abuse a great sort of poore men, who neither the Warrant mentioneth, nor the partie agreed in any wise thought to melest or trouble: and for they shadow all their villanies vnder coulloz of some especiall warrant, let it suffice ihee to read the sequell, & then iudge of their abuses, as they deserue.

Now first will I begin with their petty practises in theyr lewd actions. Say there is a man or two robd by the high way not farre from London: the rumor heereof being bruted in the City, these fellowes will be sure to haue intelligence with the first, in what manner the men were robbed, how much money they lost, & where they dwel: the reason is this, The Cunny catchers haue alwayes abroad some odde fellowes which are inquisitors of purpose, who alwayes what they heare rumor, they presently come and certifie their good maisters Cunny catchers, of all whatsoeuer, how, where, and when this robberie was committed: presently away goes E. H. or N. S. or some of that sect, and inquires out the partie that was robd: with whom, if H. or S. hap to mete withall, some occasion shall presently be found to intrude themselues into the company of them be robbed: and after some circumstancies, the Cunny catcher begins to tell of a strange robbery committed in such a place, saying it was shamefully done: and withall, they will cast some

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words a farre off, as who should say in effect : if I be not decei-
ued I know the theues, and it may be, that if I might speake
with him or them that were robd, happily I should direct them
how they might take the villaines.

All this while the Cunnicatcher taketh no notice of them
that were robbed, neyther doth the Cunnicatcher make any
shew, that they knew any such matter to be done to any in the
companie.

Now the poore men that were robd, hearing their smoth
speaches, one of them beginnes very heauily to shape his tale in
this, or such like manner. My honest friende, I know too
well that such a robberte was done, and in very dede I was
the man was robd in such a place, and at such a time as you
speake off. I beseech you good friende, stande me in what stead
you may : and if you can helpe me againe to my money, or to
take the Theeues, I will not onely thinke my selfe greatly be-
holding to you, but I will also please you to your content.
I am a poore man, I pray you do mee what pleasure you may,
good sir, I beseech you. These and such like speaches he beth.

The Cunnicatcher presently ioymeth ihues with him, and
with much curmyng he tempereth his talke. To be short, he of-
fereth all the pleasure he can do him : but quoth he, you know
I am a stranger unto you, and I know not whether you will
use mee well or no : It may be, when I haue done you good,
you will lyghtly reward me. But Ile tell you what Ile do :
Giue mee but fourtie shillinges in hand to deare my charges
the time I may search for them; and yf I do not deserue it, I
will restore it agayne, and loose all my laboure : yf you lyke of
this motion, so it is : yf not, I will not deale in your matter hot
nor colde.

When the man that was robd, heareth him so bries, yet
loch to part company on the sabbath: he intreateth to know the
Cunnicatchers name, and where he dwelleth. To this question,
an other of the Cunnicatchers companions maketh this reply.

Honest man, you neede not doubt of his good meaning to-
ward you : This is such a one as may do you pleasure, yf he

The blacke Dogge of Newgate.

please to vndertake it. Then he roundeth the man in the eare, and telleth him his name is E. H. and that he knoweth all the Theeues about London, and that he hath done more good in helping men to their owne, then can be devised to be done by a hundred others, praysing him for a wonderfull good member in a Common wealth: further certifying the partie whcre this E. H. dwelleth, and with an oþ whispering, he wysheth him to giue him some. rr. s. and then agree what he shall giue him more when the Theeues be taken, making many protestations, that he neede not to misdoubt of E. H. his honest dealing with him in any respect.

Presently the poore man pulleth his hand into his pocket, and out he puls an Angell: then saith he; M. H. I haue heard of you before, and for I haue heard nothing but well of you, I am the willinger to deale with you: truly here is an angell for you, and I will giue you a gallon of Wine at the Tauerne, and if you doe me good in this matter, I will giue you rr. s. more: then with some intreatie, he desircth him to take it in good part, and so giueth him the money.

The Cunny-catcher taketh the money verye quaintly, as though he would refuse it, but in the end he pockets it vp, and is willing to go to the Tauerne, wherc after þ drinking a gallon or two of Wine, they conclude of the former matter: and E. H. will out of hand get the theeues into Newgate, and so much he promiseth to performe vpon his honest fidelite, not letting to say, if he do it not, he dare be hanged for it.

Then the day is appointed, when within a weeke the partie robbed shall come to Newgate to know what newes, and for that time they part, the honest man to his home or about his busnesse, the Cunny-catchers to some other odde place about their knauerie, where they laugh at the Cunny, devising how to get him in for more money, never intending to do any thing in the matter, which they haue vndertaken for the honest man, whose angell they drinke merrily.

Nowe we will leaue this man for a while to his busnes of more profit, and I will proceede with the Cunny-catchers for their

The blacke Dogge of Newgate.

their practises.

These Cunnicatchers are never sole: and therefore it followeth next, to let you understand of a notable peece of seruice the sayd H. and S. playde with a friende of mine.

It happened my friende being some tyme in question, could not misse but he must needes haue acquaintance with these odde shauers: and thus it fell out. My friende being in a Taueyne drinking with some of h: s acquaintance, whilst they were drinking together, in comes H. S. who presently vsed great courtesie to my friende: but to be sh: rt, they tooke full suruoy of his wea-pons, his good cloake, and neat apparel, which was enough for them to imagine that my friende had stoe of money: where- upon they asked if he would giue them a pottle of Wine: which he willingly granted: and so after one pottle, he gaue them another: the reckouing payde, and the company ready to depart, quoth S. to E. H. I pray you hearke in your eare.

Presently he whispereth. Thus it is, my fellow hath a war- rant to take you: therefore in kinnesse I wish you to drawe to your pursse, and giue him an Angell to drinke, and I wil under- take he shall not see you at this tyme.

My friende hearing his tale led to a Cunny-catching effect, he begins to sweare they are Cunny-catching knaues, and they shall not wrong him in any respect.

To be sh: rt, the Cunny-catcher sends for a Constable, and charges the party aforesaid with felonie: the Constable know- ing them to be in office (but not so be such bad fellowes) he pre- sently apprehendeth the party: whiche done, the Cunny-catchers seeing the prisoner in safe keeping, disfurnished of his weapons, they presently require the prisoner of the Constable, and they will be his discharge: whiche the Constable did, thinking no lesse then they were right honest men.

Now marke what followeth. As these two knaues were a bringing this party charged with felonie to Newgate, one of them offerech yet for xx. s. to set him free: of which, when the party had considered, knowing though he were cleare of that he was charged, yet if he lay in Prison till the Sessions, it would

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be greater charges. When he was on Newgate stayres ready to go into the Gayle, he was content to leaue his cloake, that money he had in his pursle, and his weapons which were in the Constables hand payne for the xx. s. which the Cunny-catchers cooke, and discharged the prisoner without any more to doe.

Not long after, the aforesaid Cunny-catchers mette with this their Cunny of xx. s. price, and an other who was knowne to bee as they terme him a good fellow about the towne in his compante.

And where meete they, but in a Tauerne not farre without Bishops gate, where these two poore Cunnies had spoken for supper: amiddes their good cheere, in comes H. and I. bidding them be merry with their fare. One of these two being an odde fellow and in dread of thise Cunny-catchers, knowing them very perfectly set on the best face he could, and bad them welcome, intreating them to sit downe, and doe as they did, of which proffer the Cunny-catchers accepted willingly, and sat downe with them and eate and drunke merrily: supper being ended, the reckoning was calld for, the shot paide, and althynge discharged, the Cunnies would faine haue beene gone.

May quoch N. S. for of the two he was the grimmer knaue and had most skill to talke, I must let you know that which indeed I am sorry to doe. Yet if you will doe your selues good you may use vs well, and we will not use you amisse, to be shorze, thus it is, such a man was robd within this weeke, and he hath got out a warrant for you two by name. Hee hath lost ten pounds: now if you will restore the money, and bestowe vii. s. on vs two to drinke for our paincs, we will undertake to attisse the partie and be your discharge, if not, we haue a warrant, and you must answer it at Newgate.

This back reckoning is something sharpe, but there is no remedy, either pay so much money, or else must a Constable be sent for, and so to Newgate as round as a hoope.

To be shorze, this was the conclusion, the Cunnyes paide downe xi. l. every penny, wherof ten pound was to be paide

The blacke Dogge of Newgate.

to the man in the moone, for I dare take it upon my death ner-
ther of these Cunnies did offend any such man, in manner as
these knaues had charged them.

vny. By your leaue a word, all this while you haue not concluded
what became of the first Cunny these odde shauers mette with,
I pray you be briefe, and let vs heare how he was ended withall,
and then you shall heare me tell you of wonders, if these be held
to be but of moment.

10r. Well then to the first Cunny againe at his time appointed,
he commeth to the wise man of Newgate to inquire what is
done in his matter, and at Newgate the Cunny findeþ his odde
acquaintance with E. H. who at the first sight hath the time of
the day for him, much curtesies, but to the auerncþey must to
debate the matter, where they must haue a posse of the best.
Whiles the Wine is a filling, the Cunny-catcher sheweth
what great paine he hath taken to come by the cheues, and how
hardly they mist of them: but for it is best to vse few wordes, the
Cunny-catcher from one day to an other still drueþ off the
Cunny, who is still in hope that the Cunny-catcher meaneth
good faith, whereas indeed he never made account what faith
was: so to be short, if the cheues robd him of some ffe or saxe
pound, he hath got or he finde where he is, a drie shauing as
much as forty or fiftie shillings more.

I tell thee Zawny me thinkes these are notable byllanies, &
pittie they shold not be punished, who liue by no other meaneſ
but practisſg ſuch prankes as theſe be.

Againe this is a generall rule to the Cunny-catcher, that
when or where he meetes with ſuſh a one as hath beene at any
time committed to Newgate, if that fellow haue good appar-
reil on his back, the Cunny-catcher takeſt acquaintance of him
and a quarte of Wine they muſt needes drinke, when the reck-
ning comes to payment, the Cunny-catcher hath brought no
money from home that day, ſo by the others drawing of his
purſe to pay for the wine, he knoweth what lying is in it,
then if he haue money, the Cunny-catcher is in hand with him
for a bribe, ſome odde crowne or an Angell to drinke: if the man
be

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he in any faule, fearing the worst, he will not stand with him for a tryfle: if he be in no faule, perhaps he ells, in fayth you are deceived in me, I am not he you take me for, and so parteth and giueth him nothing.

Presently the Cunny-catcher beth all meanes to knowe where he lyes, which when he hath done, within a night or two away goes this knaue with some olde warrant to the Constable of that liberty, cravting his ayde to apprechend a bad fellow who is thought to haue done much mischiefe, but for a suerte he auoucheth him for an arrant cheefe, and that he hath beene in Newgate. Upon these speeches the Constable goes with this H. where the poore man lyes, and apprechends him and conuaines him to Newgate, laying some Justices commaundement on him, where he lyes till the sessions, unlesse he come of roundlie with a brybe to the Connycatcher: but say the Connycatcher he mistaken in this fellowes pursle, & that he haue not so much as he supposed, yet the Connycatcher is so strong of faith, that he will not beleue the contrary: so by this meanes the poore man lyeth in prison till he be quite a beggar, without releasement till the proclamation at the Sessions, at which time he is not worth the ground he goes on, neither knoweth he, being vtterly ouerthowne how to haue any remedy: which is pitifull and lamentable.

I muse you should accoumpt of these trifling matters, wher-
as indeed they are nothing in respect of the prizes they haue
platde, and if you will giue me leaue a little, I will come some
thing nearer the Cunny-catcher then you haue yet done.

I pray thee doe: yet I must needs tell thee I haue beene too
neare the Connycatcher, and what I haue spoken of him it is
not onely with greefe but with sorrow to my heart, and anguish
of soule, that these outrages should be committed, to the vter
vndoing of so many; as within this thirty yeares haue beene,
for so long did I heare one of these byllaines bant he had beene
in office about Newgate: and what I haue done or sayd on
this behalfe, with my life and death, I am ready to make proesse
of it, that it is true. This vnde I beare, that the Diuell should
have

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haue his due of these knaues , and I holde it my duty to reveale whatsoeuer is to the good of a common-wealthe ; and so I will, though the Cunnycatcher swere to giue me a cut in the legge for my labour, and now Zawny I pray thee go forward.

Gentlemen , though I want eloquence , yet you shall see I haue a rowling tong, deepe knowledge, and am a rare fellow to bewray many matters touching Cunny-catching.

Maister Greene God be with thee , for if thou hadst beene a liue, knowing what I know , thou wouldest as well haue made woxe as matter , but for my part I am a plaine fellow , and what I know I will not be meale mouthed, but blab I will, and out it must: nay and out it shall , for as the Comedian sayd ; Plenus rymarum sum.

I know twenty and twency of these fine Cunny-catchers, who learene of the fencers to double a blow , knowing what be-longs to the button, and the bob : yet for the Author hath onely vsed fourc letters for two names , let them stand , and when I name E. he must thinke Zawny can see whilist there is an eye in his head. H. is aspirationis nota , and no letter indeed, therefore I care not if this Cunny-catching H. were wypce out of the letters rowe to hang on the Gallowes , who is fitter to be a sipher to make vp a number at Tyborne, then to be a man of so bad condition . As for a pottle of WINE he cares not who he hangd so he may haue it, if it be but the WINE.

N. is the first of the second name the Author vseth. No knaue I warrant you : and as for S. if he be in some sorte a knaue to be prosued : he will be contentes, may he mist in spight of his teeth digest the name of a Cunnycatcher, for by that arte being not worth one groate a yeare, he is able by his fine wit to mainteyne himselfe in his Hattin dublet , Ueluet hose , his Hatchynde wch Ueluet, his silke stock, his Rapier and Dagger gilt, his goulden brouche , and all things correspondent as might seeme a man both of wicte and lusing . And now I, according to my promise to the Author , will haue a cast at these fine Cunny-catchers, and I will not flaunder them in any wisc, but speake the truthe vnto death. If I say more then I will vnaue.

The blacke Dogge of Newgate.

I will never byd you trust Zawny againe.

Not long since, at a Tytling upon triumph on the Coronation day: many good subiects with ioy assembled the place of Triumph, as well reioycing to see the Queens most excellent Maestie, as also to see the Tytling performed, by sundry noble and right honorable personages.

Amongst the rest, there comes a woman with sixe pounds in her purse, which the Cuppurse met withall, she as it seemed having more minde on the pleasures of the present day and time, then she had of hir purse.

The Jousts ended for that day, the woman thinking all had beene well, takes her way homewarde with a friend of hirs, yet by the way, this good woman must needs drinke with her friend a pinte of Wine: but heere was the mischiefe, when the Wine was to be payde for, the woman mist her purse, and looking on the strings, with a colde heart she might perceiue hir purse was cut away.

Hir friend to comfort hir, bad hir take no thought, for he knew a man would helpe hir to hir purse againe, and saith he, we will presently go to him, for I know where he dwels.

The woman thanked hir friend for his courteous offer, and away they go to E. H. his house, where they found him, to whom they brake the matter wholy how it was, desiring his helpe. Presently he had them in the winde, and had them welcome, promising that if they would content him for his paynes he would doe hir good, asking hir what she would willingly bestowe to haue hir money againe: at the first worde she offered him fortie shillings. All this was well, and they agree to meet the next day about White hall, where they shall haue answer to their content: and so after they had drunke a quarte of Wine at the Tauerne, for that night they parted.

The next day, according to promise they met, and this E. H. had in his company a man, who he sayd was a Constable, but whether he sayd truely or no I wyll not say, but to the matter: They appoint the wodman to go to a friends house hard by, and she shold haue more anon. Away went she, as they had appoin-

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ced hit, and away go they to looke for Cutpurses.

I warrant you they soughe not long, but heere they met with a Cutpurse, whom they take by the flegue: and there they meeke with an other as good a cutpurse as the former, and so they take at the least a dozen Cutpurses: which when they haue done, the Cunnicatcher begins to rayle mightely, swearing they shall some of them be hanged: but to Prison they shall all go, unles this money be had agayne, shewing a Warrant, or a peece of paper at the least: which is sufficient to beare the Cunnicatcher harmeles, as he sayeth.

Now the Cutpurses, though they be all cleere of this matter, yet they begin to quake for feare, offering rather then they will goe to Prison, they will make vp the money, so that E. H. will promise to giue it them againe when the cutpurse shalbe known, who cut the purse in deede. This motion the Cunnicatcher likech indifferently: and so of these dozen of cutpurses, he taketh of some more, and of some lesse, that the summe is largely made vp: which done, they are all discharged, mary they must haue some twentye shillings ouerplus for their paynes and kindnesse shewed to the cutpurses, all which is graunted.

To be sherte, no Cutpurse scapte their handes, but he paide a share, so that there was gathered the first day at the least ten pounds amongst Cutpurses, and the next day this E. H. mette with the Cutpurse, who cut the purse indeed, of whome he tooke the money, with the vantage, and let hym goe, without answering the matter: and to conclude, the woman had foure pound of hit money againe, and so the matter was no more spoken of.

I thinke this was a peece of knauery, if you talke of knauerie, and yet this is no knauerye in respect of that I will shewe you in this next discouerie of their Cunny-catching.

At the Tearme time, these fellowes H. and S. haue had great bootties by their practises in this arte, and this is their manner.

In the morning away they goe to Westminister hall, where

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thoy know the Cutpurse wyll be aboue his busynesse ; but the Cunny-catchers are not without a couple , who are their consorts : who alsoone as they come to the Hall , thrust in amongst the thickest , and there they listen to heare if any pursle were cut that day .

Likewise , the Cunny-catchers , they take their standings , one of them at the Waller side , the other in some close place , at an other gate : so that lightlye a Cutpurse cannoe come out of the Hall , but one of them shall spye him , and take him by the sleue , if the Cutpurse haue done any thing , woynde is presently brought to the Tauerne , whether the Cunny and the Cunny-catcher are gone to drinke . Nowe if it be some small summe , the Cunny-catcher sheweth the Cunny a good countenance , but if it be a large summe , as ffeare pounds , or uppwards , the Cunny-catcher dissembling his intent , wyl but say but the drinking a pottle of Waine .

The Cutpurse intreats their company , and offereth both Waine and a breakefast , but all is in vayne , the Cunny-catcher wyll not carry , swearing a great oathe , hee is sorrye that it was his chappell to see this Cunny or Cutpurse this day , for there is a mischiefe doone , and hee feares some wyll smoake for it . At this the Cutpurse is afearde , but hee for that tyme scapeþ their fyngers , for the Cunny-catcher wyll tarrie no longer .

Nowe the Cunny-catcher sendeth presentlye one of his company to seek out the partie who had his pursle cut , which he performeth with diligence , and meeting with him , he tels the partie that hee heard hee lost his pursle at Westminster , and if he wyll be aduised by him , he wyll helpe him to the most of his money againe .

This honest man glad to haue parte againe of his mony , offereth at the first woynde , the one halfe to haue the other , assuring this odde fellowe for certaintys , that hee lost tenne pounds .

Well (saith this Factor for the Cunnycatcher) if your leasure wyll serue to goe with me , I wyll bring you to one

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dooth partly knowe who cut your purse, therefore it is your
waye to followe his counsayle, and I warrant you, my life for
it, but you shall haue your desire.

Heereat the honest man is glad, and willingly goeth along
with him to a place where he knoweth E. H. abideth his com-
ming: Now being met, the Wisse man of Newgate begins
at the first dash, to tell them whereabout they come, euен in as
ample manner, as if the man who had his purse cut, had tolde
the tale himselfe.

No meruaille though the Countrey man doe wonder a
while at the matter, but in the end, he telleth him it is so indeed,
and according to the first motion they agree, which is the one
halfe for the other: the Countryman willing to referre the mat-
ter wholly to this Cunny-catchers discretion.

Then away goes the Countryman with H. the Cunny-
catcher, to a Justice, to whome he signifieth in every respect,
how his purse was cut, desiring of the Justice a warrant to
take up all suspected persons: of which motion the Justice in-
sounding to do Justice, graunts his warrant, and gives it to H.
willing him to certifie him what shall be done on that behalfe,
as the Warrant intendeth.

This Warrant obtained, the Cunnycatcher is as pleasant
as a pyre; taking his leaue of the Justice, away goes the
Countryman and his good friend with him, and to the Ta-
uerne straigthe, where they spend some time in drinking a pottle
of the best Wine, which the Countryman must pay for: which
done, H. taketh his leaue of his friend, promising him not to
be slacke in his busynesse, which done, they part; the Country-
man to his lodging or as his occasion serueth, and the Cunny-
catcher about his facultie.

Now woe to the Cutpursses, for as H. happeneth to meet
with them, they must to Newgate, shewing Warrant suffici-
ent for a greater matter.

But you must take notice, that of a dozen or sixteeue Cutpur-
ses who he hath apprehended, he is sure enough that he which
cut the purse indeed shall be none of them.

This

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This honest company of Cutpurses being all in Newgate, H. goes presently and certifies the Justice, what a sort of notable Theeves he hath taken, desiring the Justice to sende for them at his pleasure, to examine them about the Country mans Purse, assuring the Justice that they are cunning Theeves, and that he dare lay his lyfe, they will confess nothing: which in dede the Justice findeith true; for, they being examined, will confess as much as neare a whit.

To Newgate away they goe againe, where they make all meanes to H. to stande their friende, shewing their innocencie: yet rather then they will lie in Prison, one offereth ten shyllinges, an other twentie shyllinges, some more some lesse, as they are of abilitie: offering farther, to give besides the summe, every one something to H. for his good worde to the Justice, that they may be set at libertie.

Now the Cunni-catcher hath the matter as he woulde wysh it, and taking their money first, he presently goes to the Justice and certifieth him, that thefe which he hath apprechened, did none of them cut the Purse: and for he hath gotten knowledge who did, he desirereth that they may be bayled.

The Justice glad to heare the truthe is knownen, is willing to set them at libertie; which upon their bayle he graunteith. Of this money the Countrey man hath never a penny, and all these Cutpurses are set at libertie.

Which done, H. seeketh diligently for the Cutpurse, who did the matter in dede: with whome when he meeteth, he sparingeth not to tell him how soe the Justice is against him, and how earnestly the Countrey man will pursue the Law: and further he swareth, that some of them who were in Newgate before the Justice playnely, that he cut the Purse.

This peale ringes nothing well in the Cutpurses eares, who can finde no fauour, but to Newgate: yet upon intreatie made by the Cutpurse, the Cunni-catcher promiseth, that for his part he will do him any good he can, wishing the Cutpurse, as he is wise enough, so it were good for him to hold his owne, and confess nothing to the Justice, what yfsoe soever come a-

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gainst him, and in so doing, it may lie in his power to do him good ; telling hym further, that the man who lost the money, though he be sore benc against him, yet he will partly be rewled by hym.

Well, to Newgate marcheth this H. with his Cutpurse : where he to welcome him for all his fayre wordes, he clappeth on his legges a good payre of Boulces and Shakels : which done, he sendeth for the Countrey man, and telleth him of these good tydinges, how the Theefe is taken, and how he hath vsed hym.

The next way they take, is to the Justice, to whom H. signifieth how the case standeth, rayling mightely against the Cutpurse, euен in the worst maner he can devise : saying, it will be cvidently proued that he cut the Purse, and none but he : further he requesteth, that the Cutpurse may be examined. The Cutpurse is sent for, who to every question the Justice can demand, having taken out his Iesson (Confesse and be hanged) hath his answere ready, so that there can be no aduantage taken by his examination.

The Justice returneth him to Newgate againe to abyde till the next Sessions, requiring the partie to be bound to giue evidence against him : but the Countrey man dwelling farre from London, and it being long to the next Law day, alleadgeth, he can not be in the Citie at that time, for he is a poore man, and hath great occasion of busines, so that he cannot be there to giue evidence, neyther can he say, yf he would, any thing against that partie : for so farre as he can remember, he never saw that fellow before in his lyfe.

Yet H. promiseþ, that it wil be proued against the Cutpurse : so the Countrey man and H. take their leaues of Justice, making shew as though they woulde come againe, though it be no part of H. his meaing.

H. goeth straight to Newgate, where he falleþ in hand with the Cutpurse, swearing unto him by his honestie, that he hath laboured the partie who had his Purse cut, to take his money againe, and not to giue evidence against him, answering

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him with many othes, that yf he may haue his money againe, he will presently goe out of the towne. The Cuperusse taking H. his hand, that no man shall giue evidence against him at the Sessions, doth presently send abrode to his friendes for the money : which as soone as it commeth, he deliuereth to H. and wchall a large ouerplus, because he will be suer of H. his fauour.

This done, H. goes to the Countrey man, and tels him he got no more but sixe or seven poundes, of which if he will accept, and proceede no further against the partie, he hath ic to pay him: mary he will not be knownen to the Countrey man, but that he had that mony of some friendes of the Cuperusses, who vpon the foynt condition, is willing ic should be payde, yf not, to haue his money agayne.

The Countrey man hauring herte out of the Cittie, is glad to take ic: out of which summe, if it be seauen poundes, H. must haue halfe: so that the poore man of ten poundes, hath but thre pound ten shillinges, whereas the Cunni-catcher by this ac-compt hath got at one hand and an other, very neare somme Marke: the money sharde, the Countrey man takes Hysse, and away he rides: Againe, H. his mouth is stopt, and the next Sessions the Cuperusse is quit by Proclamation, no man being there to giue evidence against him.

¶ wonderfull peece of villanie. Zawny, I will trouble thes no further, thou hast tolde inough, and I will tell no more: who heares but thes which is already spoken, will holde these knaues for execrable varlets. So for this time I will com-mende thee to thy other busines, wyshing thy libertie, as I do my owne: and if thou haue occasion, commaund mee to do thee good, if it lie in my power.

Sir, I thanke you for your courteous offer: but yee I must tell you, I could tell twentie such prankes as thes are, which these cunny-catching fellowes haue played: but in dede they keepe one order almost, in perfourming them all: but since you thinke here is inough, I will say no more, and so fare

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Thus haue you heard, gentle Reader, how at large this
Blacke Dogge is defcifred: which Dogge as he is, is worthy
of your generall hate: but for I haue much paynes concluded
my Booke vnder that typle, I will not request you according
to the olde proverbe, loue me, loue my Hounde: but only, loue
me, and hang my Dogge, for he is not worthy so good a name
as a Hounde: and so wishing you all well, I conclude.

F.I.N.I.S.

